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**PATENT** 2/3/04

Attorney Docket No. 032405R070

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Toshio KOBAYASHI

Serial No.: 09/816,146

Group Art Unit: 3611

Filed: March 26, 2001

Examiner: Anne Marie M. Boehler

For: POWER TRANSMITTING SYSTEM FOR FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLE

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A response to the Restriction Requirement/Species Election mailed December 12, 2003 is due by January 12, 2004. Please accept this Response as timely filed.

Restriction was required among the following three species:

- I. The embodiment of Figures 1-6;
- II. The embodiment of Figures 7 and 8; and
- III. The embodiment of Figures 9A and 9B.

Applicant hereby elects Group I, Figures 1-6. Claims 1-4 are directed at the elected species.

No change is required in the inventorship of the application as a result of the election.

Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application for the non-elected subject matter in due course.

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**GROUP 3600**

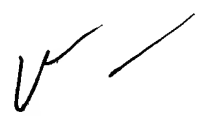
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT  
U.S. Appln. No. 09/816,146

Applicant submits that this application now is in condition for examination on the merits and early action in that regard is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By:

  
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Date: January 12, 2003